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Selectmen Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2014

Board Present: Greg Grotton, Lyle Cramer, Elmer Savage, Jim Justice and Sara Moore.

Also Present: Jay Feyler, Jim Murphy, Michael Strong, Doris Vertz and Joseph Patricia.

1. **Call Selectmen's Meeting to Order:** by Chair at 6:30PM.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** given by all who wished.
3. **Public Comment:** Doris Vertz a member of the Rockland Rotary asked if it would be allowed to sell chances at the next Selectmen's meeting for two nights at a cottage at the Samoset. Jay asked to sell to the Board? She said yes. Jay said to sell it to the public we don't allow like upstairs to do that but just to bring stuff in we've done that before so yes you can.
4. **Approve Minutes of August 5, 2014:** Board tabled to next meeting.
5. **Open Property abatement request hearing as Assessors (Strong):**
Motion by Lyle Cramer to open Board of Assessor's Public Hearing at 6:35PM. Seconded by Sara Moore. Unanimous. Mr. Strong presented his case for an abatement stating he stopped working on the house in 2007. A heating system, bedroom, working flush, shower and sink were installed in 2010. The building stayed like that, he did a little more work in 2010 and 2011 then stopped working on it. In 2012 the building was valued at \$93,900. He was informed in 2013 valuations on the building had been increased to \$163,100 assuming the building was complete. Tax Assessor advised him in June 2013 that an interior inspection of the property is required with regards to his contention that the property is overvalued based on the lack of completion of the interior of the building. This inspection request is made under Maine Title 36 section 706. In the 20 years Jim has been here this is the first time he has not been afforded an interior inspection. Tax Assessor Jim Murphy said at issue is that we have an Abatement application that was untimely dated in July. Jim does not

feel Mr. Strong has standing to bring this appeal to the Board for this year. Failing an interior inspection Jim is recommending to the Board of Assessors' that the abatement application be denied. Elmer questioned why Mr. Strong didn't allow an interior inspection. Mr. Strong said he wrote Jim a letter saying he would have him inspect the building but that didn't occur and then he moved into the building and felt the building was so incomplete that pictures he sent would serve. He stated further that he didn't want a visitor inside his living space if it wasn't necessary. Mr. Strong felt the pictures were as good as a visual inspection. The Chair noted the house isn't complete it doesn't have anything more than a shower, sink, toilet and bedroom so you can sleep there. It doesn't have a kitchen that you can cook in so why would you refuse anyone the right to come into the house to inspect it especially when it's a necessity. Greg said he would want him to see that it is incomplete. Secondly, Greg added he could take pictures on day one of construction from my photo album and decide to use those twenty years later. That's not verification for him and like Elmer he doesn't understand why Mr. Strong refuses to let him come into the house. Greg would like a good answer on that. Mr. Strong said he didn't feel the Municipality and the Government had a need to come into my house when what he needed to know I have provided.

6. **Close Hearing portion and open for Board Discussion and Deliberations:** Motion made by Lyle Cramer to close Board of Assessor's public hearing at 6:55PM. Seconded by Sara Moore. Unanimous. Chair asks for vote. Motion by Lyle Cramer to deny Abatement request based on lack of standing. Seconded by Jim Justice. Unanimous. The Tax Assessor noted Mr. Strong has 60 days to appeal this decision to the Knox County Board of Assessor's.
7. **Sign 2014-2015 Commitment:** Jim noted about .45 of the increase in valuation is the maintenance for our roads. The 15.90 gives us about a \$42,000 overlay. Motion by Jim Justice to sign 2014-2015 commitment mil rate 15.90. Seconded by Jim Justice. One opposed. (Grotton).
8. **Decision on 3 voting members to Pullen Committee:** Motion by Jim Justice to approve Elmer Savage, Lyle Cramer and Sara Moore as voting members to Pullen Committee. Seconded by Greg Grotton. Unanimous.
9. **Approve sale of surplus equipment:** Jay opened the bids on August 19th. Bids were put out for 97 Ford L8000 and Turbo turf seeder; we received only two valid bids. \$1500 on the L8000 and \$85.00 on the 98 turbo turf. Jay suggests the Board reject the bid for the 97 Ford L8000 and put it in Uncle Henry's, he is sure we can get a better price. The \$85.00 for 98 turbo turf submitted by Jeremy Kurr is a good bid as the engine is seized and it is about the value of the tank.

Motion by Jim Justice we reject the bid of \$1500 for L8000. Seconded by Lyle Cramer.

Unanimous. Motion by Jim Justice we accept the \$85.00 for 98 turbo turf. Seconded by Sara Moore. Unanimous.

10. **Approve Pole Location from Tidewater Telecom:** Motion by Lyle Cramer to approve Pole Location on North Union Rd. Seconded by Jim Justice. Unanimous.
11. **Discussion on PW backhoe, Orrin Parker:** Item postponed until next meeting.
12. **Sign Treasurer's Warrant dated September 3, 2014:** Motion by Jim Justice to sign Treasurer's Warrant dated September 3, 2014. Seconded by Lyle Cramer. Unanimous.
13. **Other Business:** there was none.
14. **Town Manager's Report:** Jay reported chip seal on the roads (Daniels, Payson, Short St. and the upper section of Clarry Hill) is done. The second road side mowing is going on now and will be done by the end of the week.
15. **Selectmen's Report:** Jim noted TCC monthly meetings are now on the last Tuesday of the month at 5:30PM. Jim added TCC is asking to be put on the agenda for discussion on the Fire Service. Jay answered them and assumes they will be at the next meeting.
16. **Future Agenda Items:** there was none.
17. **Adjourn:** Motion by Jim Justice to adjourn at 7:30PM. Seconded by Lyle Cramer. Unanimous.

These minutes were approved on September 16, 2014 with the following amendments.